

Louisiana Historical Records Advisory Board

MINUTES

March 4, 2026 | 2:00pm | Louisiana State Archives Gallery

I. Call to Order – The meeting was called to order at 2:25 pm

II. Roll Call

Present: Ann Boltin, Christina Bryant, Angelique Bergeron, Melanie Montanaro, Catherine Newsome, Zack Stein, Gail Wilking, and Jennifer Waxman

Not Present: Debbie Hudnall, Debbie Henton, Meg Placke, Dr. Ed Benoit, Amy Moran, and Zach Tompkins

Others Present: Ashley D. Simmons

III. Order of Business

1. **Approval of Agenda** - On motion of Angelique Bergeron and seconded by Ann Boltin, the board approved the agenda. **Motion Passed.**

2. **Approval of Minutes** – On motion of Gail Wilking, seconded by Angelique Bergeron, the board approved the minutes. **Motion Passed.**

3. **Strategic Plan**

- a. Melanie Montanaro presented a working draft of the Strategic Plan. Jennifer Waxman had several questions regarding Goal three and the action points related to maintaining a webpage and the punitive connotation of asking historical custodians to report at-risk collections to the LHRAB. Catherine Newsome stated that the existing Secretary of State webpage satisfied the requirement. The Board addressed the reporting of at-risk collections to the LHRAB and agreed that the intent of the bullet point was covered by Goal one and Goal three, and the line should be cut.
- b. Jennifer Waxman requested that the language “historical records repositories and cultural heritage institutions” (stewards) be consistently used throughout the Strategic plan and thus be added to Goal four.

4. **Federal Funding Open Discussion**

- a. Jennifer Waxman reported that the AIC/FAIC had provided micro-grants in the past, used previously for a disaster training program. These grants could be available for future needs.
- b. Melanie Montanaro reports that the NHPRC funding has been at a standstill because the commission has not met. However, she shared that President Trump sent a nomination for AOTUS to the Senate on March 2, 2026.

5. **Items for Discussion**

- a. Angelique Bergeron noted the Old Time Jam and Cajun French Music Open Jam would be held March 8th and March 15th, respectively, at the West Baton Rouge Museum.
- b. Ann Boltin reported the Diocese has been receiving numerous Canadian descent requests.

- c. Catherine Newsome stated the National Archives was loaning the Louisiana Purchase to the Old State Capitol for display from April 14 to July 12, 2026. She then suggested that the next board meeting should be held at the Old State Capitol so the Board could get a private tour.
- d. Ms. Simmons asked the Board to choose their next meeting date for 2026. They requested that several dates be emailed after the meeting.

IV. Adjournment

On motion of Jennifer Waxman, and seconded by Christina Bryant, the Board voted to adjourn at 3:22 pm. **Motion passed.**

The next meeting is TBD.


Trey Williams, Chairman

Date

